infrastructure and pursuing regulatory reforms for improving the investment climate.

(c) and (d) No such proposal has been received from the Bank.

Bio-Mass Gasifier project in Myanmar

3372. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has set up a demonstration bio-mass gasifier project suitable for small and medium enterprises in Myanmar, and is also assisting Myanmar in setting up the BIMSTEC Energy Information Center;

(b) if so, how far small and medium enterprises have derived benefit from the bio-mass gasifier; and

(c) by when the energy information center is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The bio mass gasifier uses local agricultural residue as its main feedstock. The gasifier reduces fuel consumption and productivity of the end produce also improves due to better burning in the tobacco curing industry.

(c) India assisted Myanmar in setting up the website for the BIMSTEC Energy Information Centre. Energy information and data from India, Myanmar and Thailand has been uploaded on to the website: http://www.bimstec-energy.org.mm.

Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary Obstacles in Marine Exports

3373. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of countries, according to MPEDA, in which there are sanitary and phyto-sanitary related market access obstacles;

(b) whether it is a fact that due to these obstacles, the export of the Indian marine products are adversely affected; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to meet this challenge of sanitary and phyto-sanitary related challenges in the WTO and otherwise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) According to the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), there are sanitary and phyto-sanitary (SPS) related market access obstacles only in Saudi Arabia.

(b) Despite this instance of sanitary and phyto-sanitary measures related market access obstacles, our export of marine products have registered a positive growth rate of 4.2%, in dollar terms, during 2005-06 as compared to the previous year.

(c) Government has already taken up the matter with the Saudi Arabia and they have agreed to lift the ban on import of Indian marine products into Saudi Arabia, subject to signing the agreement with the Indian side to ensure compliance with the rules, regulations and to maintain the sanitary requirements etc., in respect of marine products before these are exported to Saudi Arabia.

As per the WTO-SPS Agreement, Member's SPS related measures shall be backed by the evidence of science and the same would also need to be based on appropriate risk analysis. If the proposed rules, regulations and related sanitary requirements of Saudi Arabia in respect of marine products, are at variance with these basic principles, India can adopt and initiate appropriate proceedings as per the WTO-SPS Agreement.

Cases of pending dues of missing and deceased soldiers

†3374. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of payment of dues of the missing and deceased soldiers pending with army as on the 31st January, 2006, wing-wise;

(b) since when these are pending;

(c) the reasons for pendency in each case; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.